

REMARKS

Claims 1-2, 7-10, 15-18 and 23-26 are pending. Claim 9 is amended herein. No new matter is added as a result of the claim amendments.

Drawings

According to the instant Office Action, the drawings are objected to because they do not have labels or legends. However, the drawings have labels and legends. Clarification of the objection, or withdrawal of the objection, is respectfully requested.

103 Rejections

Claims 1-2, 9-10, 17-18 and 25-26

The instant Office Action states that Claims 1-2, 9-10, 17-18 and 25-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Suomela (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0011467) in view of Yoshizawa (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2001/0036273) and further in view of Chiu (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0204748).

Applicants respectfully agree with the statement on page 5 the instant Office Action that "Suomela and Yoshizawa do not specifically disclose including trusted and non-trusted devices and distinguishing said trusted devices from non-trusted [devices]." Chiu is cited to overcome this deficiency.

However, Applicants respectfully submit that Chiu does not qualify as prior art. The instant application has a filing date of February 25, 2002. Chiu has a filing date of May 20, 2002, and claims priority to a provisional application filed April 30, 2002.

Because these dates are after the filing date of the instant application, Chiu does not qualify as prior art.

Consequently, the Applicants respectfully assert that the basis for rejecting Claims 1-2, 9-10, 17-18 and 25-26 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is traversed.

Claims 7, 15 and 23

The instant Office Action states that Claims 7, 15 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Suomela in view of Yoshizawa and Chiu and further in view of Baptist et al. ("Baptist;" U.S. Patent No. 5,465,392).

Claims 7, 15 and 23 are dependent on independent Claims 1, 9 and 17, respectively, and recite additional limitations. As presented above, Applicants respectfully submit that Suomela and Yoshizawa, alone or in combination, do not show or suggest the present invention as recited in Claims 1, 9 and 17, and that Chiu does not qualify as prior art.

Furthermore, Applicants respectfully submit that Baptist does not overcome the shortcomings of Suomela and Yoshizawa and the absence of Chiu.

Therefore, the Applicants respectfully assert that the basis for rejecting Claims 7, 15 and 23 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is traversed.

Claims 8, 16 and 24

The instant Office Action states that Claims 8, 16 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Suomela in view of Yoshizawa and Chiu and further in view of Sormunen et al. ("Sormunen;" U.S. Patent No. 6,112,078).

Claims 8, 16 and 24 are dependent on independent Claims 1, 9 and 17, respectively, and recite additional limitations. As presented above, Applicants respectfully submit that Suomela and Yoshizawa, alone or in combination, do not show or suggest the present invention as recited in Claims 1, 9 and 17, and that Chiu does not qualify as prior art.

Furthermore, Applicants respectfully submit that Sormunen does not overcome the shortcomings of Suomela and Yoshizawa and the absence of Chiu.

Therefore, the Applicants respectfully assert that the basis for rejecting Claims 8, 16 and 24 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is traversed.

Conclusions

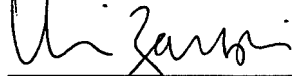
In light of the above remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejected claims.

Based on the arguments presented above, Applicants respectfully assert that Claims 1-2, 7-10, 15-18 and 23-26 overcome the rejections of record and, therefore, Applicants respectfully solicit allowance of these claims.

The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative if the Examiner believes such action would expedite resolution of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: 6/4/07